

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An ink base for producing pigmented inks having a water base contains a drying retarder and a pH adjusting agent. The drying retarder contains at least diethylene glycol, 1,6-hexane diol, and pentaerythritol. The pH adjusting agent (PH) contains at least one amine. The ink base contains at least 30.0 - 95.5 % by wt. diethylene glycol; 3.0 - 40.0 % by wt. 1,6-hexane diol; 0.01 - 3.0 % by wt. pentaerythritol; and 1.5 -15.0 % by wt. amine(s).